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OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT

The Ouachita National Forest, Jessieville-Winona-Fourche Ranger District, has prepared a draft environmental assessment (EA) for the Blue Gill Mine Project. The project area is located in Garland County, AR in Section 10, Township 2 North, Range 17 West. It includes timber removal and quartz mining activities. It is an activity that is subject to the pre-decisional objection process at 36 CFR 218 Subparts A and B. The EA is available on-line at: www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=60834. Additional information can be obtained from Paula Homan at (501) 984-5313 ext. 107, paula.homan@usda.gov.

The opportunity to comment ends 30 days following the date of publication of the legal notice in the *Arkansas Democrat Gazette*. Only those who submit timely and specific written comments per §218.2 regarding the proposed project or activity during a public comment period established by the responsible official are eligible to file an objection §218.24(b)(6). For issues to be raised in objections, they must be based on previously submitted specific written comments regarding the proposed project or activity and attributed to the objector. The publication date of the legal notice in the newspaper of record is the exclusive means for calculating the time to submit written comments on a proposed project or activity. The time period for the opportunity to comment on a proposed project or activity to be documented with an environmental assessment shall not be extended. It is the responsibility of all individuals and organizations to ensure that their comments are received in a timely manner.

Mail written comments to: Clinton D. Davis, District Ranger, P.O. Box 189, Jessieville, AR 71949 or fax to (501) 984-6253. Electronic comments must be submitted in a format such as an email message, plain text (.txt), rich text format (.rtf), or Word (.doc, .docx) to comments-southern-ouachita-jessieville-winona@usda.gov. For objection eligibility, each individual or representative from each entity submitting timely and specific written comments regarding the proposed project or activity must either sign the comments or verify identity upon request §218.24(b)(8). Please state "Blue Gill Proposed Mine Project" in the subject line when providing electronic comments, or on the envelope when replying by mail.